Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 STR-07 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 OES-07 /058 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1337

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: ETRD, IT

SUBJECT/ FLORENCE AGREEMENT: IMPLEMENTATION OF ANNEX D

REF: (A) STATE 60577: (B) 77 ROME 2845

1. LOCAL BUSINESS SURCES ENGAGED IN IMPORTAION OF U.S. SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL US SIDIARIES OF U.S. FIRMS (SUCH AS HEWLETT PACKARD AND HONEYWELL WHICH DISTRIBUTE INITALY

INSTRUMENTS PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS THOSE PRODUCED BY THEM IN ITALY OR ELSEWHERE IN EUROPE) STATED THAT CONDITIOS IN ITALY REGARDING IMPORTAION OF SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS UNDER ANNEX D OF

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FLORENCE AGREEMENT AVE REMAINED PRACTICALLY UNCHANGED IN 1977. THEY INDICATED THERE HAS BEEN NO APPRECIABLE LOSS OF BUSINESS DURING THAT YEAR, FROM ADOPTION ON DECEMBER 6, 1976, OF COMPLEX IMPORT PROCEDURES PROVIDING FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY-WIDE AVAILABILIY TEST. THE EMBASSY HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY COMPLAINTS FROM U.S. FIRMS ABOUT FAILURES TO OBTAIN DUTY FREE ENTRY UNDER ANNEX D.

- 2. THIS INFORMATION WAS CONFIRMED INDIRECTLY BY DR. VINCENZO CRESCENZI, THE OFFICER OF THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROCESSING APPLICATIONS FOR DUTY FREE IMPORTS. DR. CRESCENZI STATED THAT IN 1977, AS IN EARLIER YEARS, HIS MINISTRY CONTINUED TO APPLY THE REGULATION LIBERALLY, DISPITE THE NEW PROCEDURES. AS A RESULT, HE SAID, ALMOST ALL APPLICATIONS FILED DURING THAT YEAR WERE GRANTED. DR. CRESCENZI POINTED OUT THAT NEARLY ALL APPLICATIONS FOR DUTY FREE ADMISSION AMOUNTED TO LESS THAN 25,000 UNITS OF ACCOUNT AND, CONSEQUENTLY, THEY WERE DEALT WITH AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, WITHOUT BEING FORWARDED TO THE EC COMMISSION. OF THE FEW THAT WERE FORWARDED PRACTIVALLY NONE WAS ULTIMATELY REJECTED. DR. CRESCENZI INDICATED THAT IN MOST OF THE CASES IN WHICH THE EC COMMISSION CLAIMED THAT INSTRUMENTS OF EQUIVALENT SCIENTIFIC VALUE WERE AVAILABLE IN THE COMMUNITY, HE WAS ABLE TO PREVAIL ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION PROVIDED THE THE INTERESTED IMPORTERS.
- 3. DATA ON IMPORTS UNDER ANNEX D ARE COMPILED BY GOI AND FORWARDED TO EC COMMISSION AS A MONTHLY BASIS.OUR MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY SOURCE WAS RELUCTANT, HOWEVER, TO PROVIDE THIS DATA
- 4. COMMENT. AS STAED REF B ITALY'S LIBERAL POLICY STEMS FROM RECOGNITION THAT HIGH-TECHNOLOGY INSTRUMENTS-SUCH AS THOSE ORDINARILY IMPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES-ARE ESSENTIAL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.GARDNER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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